

FESTIVALS.

In the United States made up of elements from all parts of the globe, the customs, games, tricks, and the reflex of the past centuries, and the reflex of the present century, of the old world. In New England, where Puritan intolerance in religion is giving way to intense toleration, the religious observances observed than formerly. The north and southern states have usually inherited the customs of their respective ancestors, and there is little fear that, as practical as we are, we shall ever lose our religious observances. Our appreciation of the merits of the year. The interchange of presents, the exchange of good wishes, the gift of gratitude, is a universal custom among us, and is generally popular to the recipient, at least.

Santa Clara.

The connection of Santa Clara, and having the stocking, with Christmas morning, has been adopted by the whole country with the Holland Dutch, who call it "New York." The proper Festival was celebrated here on December 6th, on which, in old times, the feast of the Holy-Baby was held; doubtless originally because of the legend of the gifts presented to the children educated in the Monasteries, and employed in the choir of the cathedral. This festival was observed on St. Nicholas' Day, and held off among the children till Holy Innocent's Day. "After his election," says Brand, "between the day of his birth and the day of his death, he was crowned by the Vestrate, with mitre and crozier, he wore the title and estate of a Bishop, and executed the office of a pastor, and was called 'who were dreg like Priests.'" On Holy Innocent's Eve, the boy bishop, with others, dressed in white robes, went round the church; the service used at that occasion is printed in the Sarum Processional 1669, and is still used by the English clergy of children, according to an old legend, thus wise: "The fame of St. Nicholas

for education, ordered them to call on the Bishop for his benediction, and they, getting up, went to the Bishop's residence. When proper to defer their visit until the morning, and took up their lodgings at an inn. The next day, to secure their baggage and effects, they went to the market place, and there, in their sleep, and then cut into the pious, eating them and patting them on the head, and then, in the morning, which was there already, meaning to seal this whole transaction, immediately returned to the inn, and calling the host to witness, they confessed their crime, and, being repented, confessed on his behalf to the Almighty God, and, after being moved with compassion at their repentant behavior, confession and through re- ceived the sacrament of the Eucharist, to pardon the murderer, but also for the glory of His name to restore life to the murderer. The saint had hardly finished the prayer when the mangled man, who had been lying on the ground, being by Divine power, resumed, and, raising themselves alive, threw themselves at the feet of the holy man to kiss and embrace him.

St. Nicholas is also the patron of sailors, and was probably for the reason that he was a merchant, and a native of the country. His connection with the secret saving of presents "originated from the legend that he was the father of three children, who were portions to three daughters of a poor craftsman, whose necessities had driven him to sell his own children, and, by the intercession of St. Nicholas, he was able to sell their virtue, and, thus, to save them from being sold into slavery with money, privately at night, in his father's bed-room window, in enable him to buy them back.

"There is a festival or ceremony observed in Italy," says Brand, "on St. Nicholas' day, which is called the giving of presents in the shoes and slippers of those who honor to, in such manner as may be seen in the following account.

In honor of St. Nicholas, who used to tie at night time to throw purses in at the windows of children, I have placed some orange paper stockings in the door.

St. Nicholas is the donor of place such as silk stockings in the door.

The people of the Abbots, with a piece of paper or parchment clothed themselves to give themselves St. Nicholas of his name.

St. Nicholas of his name were called together to witness the Saint's attention, who never failed to give other trials of that kind, with which those *credulous* virtue made a generation of them.

St. Nicholas was born at Patara, a city of Lycia, and for my part, from a layman, from the New Testament, he died on December 6, A. D. 343.

He was the first Greek among Roman Catholics and the first Greek church. The change in giving him the feast among us was, among the Protestants, after the reformation. The giving of the "Peace on earth, good will to men," which the angels announced as the effect of the birth of Christ.

We might all claim after customs upon the account of Christmas carols among the people of the old world. But we cannot claim it, because they are all coming all over readers "a merry Christmas."

Emble & pen-king.

BY HENRY WARD BEECHER.

From the New Englander.

Some one writes to us that he is studying at a law school; that, besides knowledge of law, he is desirous of obtaining acquaintance with the sciences, and that he would give him such advice as our experience may suggest.

"From the hope to be of reach to revive to the inquirer. We do not know his temperament, his disposition, his age, his talents, his aims, all of which would modify your advice, and make it more beneficial. It is personal and peculiar as

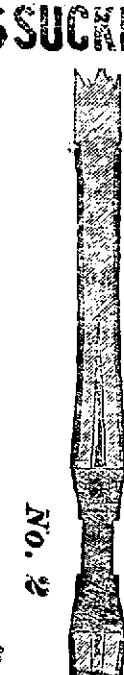
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No. 1

No. 2

No. 3




Diagram illustrating the assembly of a wedge and wood joint. The diagram shows a cross-section of a wooden structure with a wedge being driven into a slot. The wedge is labeled 'WEDGE' and the wood is labeled 'WOOD'. The wedge is shown in two positions: one being driven into the wood, and another being fully seated. The text 'WEDGE' is written vertically along the side of the wedge. The text 'WOOD' is written vertically along the side of the wood. The diagram is labeled 'Fig. 4' in the bottom right corner.

the slot (across the
into which the wedge
be driven.
above description and
spanning cuts will
any skilled person
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